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37583 7590 05/12/2011
NAVTEQ NORTH AMERICA, LLC
425 West RANDOLPH STREET
SUITE 1200, PATENT DEPT
CHICAGO, IL 60606

EXAMINER

CAO, PHUONG THAO

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2164

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2011

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/798,459

03/11/2004

Kurt Brooks Uhlir

N0184US

7407

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR USING GEOGRAPHIC DATA IN COMPUTER GAME DEVELOPMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	08/12/2011

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

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If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

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B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

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(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/798,459 03/11/2004 Kurt Brooks Uhlir N0184US 7407

TITLE OF INVENTION: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR USING GEOGRAPHIC DATA IN COMPUTER GAME DEVELOPMENT

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
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nonprovisional NO \$1510 \$300 \$0 \$1810 08/12/2011

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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CAO, PHUONG THAO 2164 707-102000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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10/798,459	03/11/2004	Kurt Brooks Uhler	N0184US	7407

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EXAMINER

CAO, PHUONG THAO

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2164

DATE MAILED: 05/12/2011

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 169 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 169 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/798,459	UHLIR ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Phuong-Thao Cao	2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 02/22/2011.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 22-28,30-41,43 and 45-52.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |
|--|---|

/Hung T Vy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2163

REMARKS

1. This action is in response to Amendment filed 02/22/2011.
2. Amendment to Specification filed 02/22/2011 has been received and accepted.
3. Response with respect to the 112, 1st paragraph rejection (see Remarks filed 02/22/2011, page 11) is effective to overcome the 112, 1st paragraph rejection as presented in the previous Office action. Therefore, the previous 112, 1st paragraph rejection has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Adil M. Musabji (Reg. No. 58,728) on May 4, 2011.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please amend claims 22, 25, 27, 34, 35, 47, 48 and 51 and cancel claims 29 and 44 as presented in the listing of claims, as follows:

1-21. (Canceled).

22. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method for deriving at least two products from a source geographic database, the source geographic database comprising data representing real-world geographic road features including geographic coordinates of positions of roads, street names of the roads, address ranges along the roads, turn restrictions at intersections of the roads, road connectivity, and road shape, wherein the at least two products comprise a first dataset and a second dataset, the second dataset provided to depict a real geographic locale as part of a play scenario for a computer game, the method comprising:
- extracting the first dataset from the source geographic database;
 - writing the first dataset to a first computer-readable medium;
 - providing the first dataset, wherein at least a portion of the first dataset is used in a real-world navigation system;
 - extracting the second dataset from the source geographic database;
 - writing the second dataset to a second computer-readable medium; and
 - ~~providing the second dataset to a computer game system~~
providing at least a portion of the second dataset to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms[[:]],
- wherein each of the plurality of end-user computing platforms uses at least a portion of the second dataset ~~is used~~ in the respective computer game ~~[[that]]~~ to depict~~[[s]]~~ the real geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game, the play scenario including a predetermined theme that governs game play of the computer game in a preset storyline, wherein the play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a user's actual physical location.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the real-world navigation system is selected from a group consisting of: in-vehicle navigation systems, hand-held portable navigation systems, personal computers, personal digital assistants, pagers, and telephones.

24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein using at least a portion of the first dataset in a real-world navigation system comprises providing a service selected from a set consisting of: route calculation, route guidance, vehicle positioning, map display, and electronic yellow pages.
25. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
 - combining at least a portion of the second dataset with a road-model dataset to provide a realistic visual appearance of roads[[:]],
 - wherein the road-model dataset is separate from the source geographic database.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the road-model dataset comprises a feature selected from a set consisting of: road-pavement colors, lane-stripe markings, curbs, sidewalks, signs, lampposts, land dividers, traffic signals, speed bumps, and crosswalks.
27. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
 - combining at least a portion of the second dataset with a 3D-model dataset to provide a realistic visual representation of a feature selected from a set consisting of: polygon-shaped features, cityscape features, landscape features, buildings, fences, trees, shrubbery, lawns, and clouds[[:]],
 - wherein the 3D-model dataset is separate from the source geographic database.
28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
 - combining at least a portion of the second dataset with a computer-game component selected from a set consisting of: characters, game logic, vehicles, games rules, rendering logic, and graphics logic.

29. (Canceled).
30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
accessing the second dataset using an application programming interface.
31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
accessing the second dataset using a spatial query.
32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
extracting data from the second dataset using spatial criteria.
33. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 further comprising:
filtering data from the second dataset to provide a desired level of
accuracy.
34. (Currently Amended) A non-transitory computer-readable medium having
computer-executable instructions stored thereon for performing a method of using
a source geographic database, the source geographic database comprising data
representing real-world geographic road features including geographic
coordinates of positions of roads, street names of the roads, address ranges along
the roads, turn restrictions at intersections of the roads, road connectivity, and
road shape, the method comprising:
extracting a first dataset from the source geographic database;
writing the first dataset to a first computer-readable medium;
providing the first dataset to supply a navigation-related function in a real-
world navigation system;
extracting a second dataset from the source geographic database;
writing the second dataset to a second computer-readable medium; and

providing the second dataset and a geographic data tool set to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms to develop a computer-game that depicts a real geographic locale as part of a play scenario having a preset storyline, wherein each of the plurality of end-user computing platforms uses at least a portion of the second dataset in the respective computer game to depict the real geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game, wherein the play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a user's actual physical location[[:]],

wherein the geographic data tool set is configured to extract data representing all road segments corresponding to a sub-area from the second dataset based on a location input.

35. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of using a source database for forming derived products, wherein the source database contains data that represent real-world geographic road features in a region including roads in the region including geographic coordinates of positions of roads, street names of the roads, address ranges along the roads, turn restrictions at intersections of the roads, road connectivity, and road shape, the method comprising:

providing a first set of data from the source database to a first developer, the first set of data stored in a first computer-readable medium, wherein the first developer uses the first set of data in systems that provide navigation-related features, wherein the first set of data represents at least some of the real-world geographic road features in the region and further wherein the first set of data includes attributes configured to provide navigation-related functions; and

providing a second set of data from the source database and a geographic data tool set to ~~a second developer~~ a plurality of end user computing platforms that use the second set of data in computer games installed on the end user computing platforms, the second set of data stored in a second computer-readable medium, wherein the ~~second developer~~ end user computing platforms use[[s]] the

second set of data and the geographic data tool set to develop the computer games, wherein the second set of data represents at least some of the real-world geographic road features ~~in the region~~ as part of play scenarios of the computer games including respective preset storylines, wherein a respective play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a respective user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a respective user's actual physical location,

wherein the geographic data tool set provides a spatial search function that retrieves data representing all road segments in a sub-area from the second set of data based on a location specific query that identifies the sub-area.

36. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with road model data to provide a realistic visual appearance of roads in the region.
37. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with road model data to provide a realistic visual appearance of roads in the region, wherein the road model data includes road pavement colors, lane stripe markings, curbs, sidewalks, signs, lampposts, lane dividers, traffic signals, speed bumps, and crosswalks.
38. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with 3D model data to provide a realistic visual representation of polygon-shaped features in the region.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with 3D model data to provide a realistic visual representation of cityscape and landscape features in the region.

40. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with 3D model data to provide a realistic visual representation of one of a group consisting of: buildings, fences, trees, shrubbery, lawns, fences, and clouds in the region.
41. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is accessed by an application programming interface that is included in the geographic data tool set.
42. (Canceled).
43. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein data from the second set of data is filtered to provide a desired level of accuracy in a second database product.
44. (Canceled).
45. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with other game-related components to form the computer games.
46. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 35 wherein the second set of data is combined with other game-related components to form the computer games, wherein the other game-related components include at least one of a group consisting of: characters, game logic, vehicles, game rules and programs for rendering and graphics.
47. (Currently Amended) The non-transitory computer-readable medium of Claim 34, wherein the sub-area comprises a city, and wherein the location input includes identification of the city.

48. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of using a source geographic database, the source geographic database comprising data representing real-world geographic road features including geographic coordinates of positions of roads, street names of the roads, address ranges along the roads, turn restrictions at intersections of the roads, road connectivity, and road shape, the method comprising:
- extracting a first dataset from the source geographic database;
 - writing the first dataset to a first computer-readable medium;
 - providing the first dataset to supply a navigation-related function in a real-world navigation system;
 - extracting a second dataset from the source geographic database;
 - writing the second dataset to a second computer-readable medium; and
 - providing the second dataset and a geographic data tool set to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms to develop a computer-game that depicts a real geographic locale as part of a play scenario of a preset storyline, wherein each of the plurality of end-user computing platforms uses at least a portion of the second dataset in the respective computer game to depict the real geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game, wherein the play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a user's actual physical location[[:]],
wherein the geographic data tool set is configured to request data representing road segments within a selected area from the second dataset as a function of a spatial query, the spatial query defining the selected area, and wherein the selected area is defined by a longitude and latitude point and a radial distance from the longitude and latitude point.
49. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 51, wherein the selected area is defined by a longitude and latitude point and a radial distance from the longitude and latitude point.

50. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 51, wherein the selected area is defined by a rectangular area having specified geographic boundaries.
51. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented method of facilitating development of computer games, the method comprising:
- extracting a dataset from a source geographic database, wherein the source geographic database includes data that represent roads in a road network in a real world geographic locale including
 - (i) geographic coordinates of positions of the roads,
 - (ii) street names of the roads,
 - (iii) address ranges along the roads,
 - (iv) turn restrictions at intersections of the roads,
 - (v) road connectivity, and
 - (vi) road shape;
 - writing the dataset to a computer-readable medium; and
 - providing the dataset and a geographic data tool set to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms to develop a computer-game that depicts the roads in the real world geographic locale as part of a play scenario of the computer game including a preset storyline, wherein each of the plurality of end-user computing platforms uses at least a portion of the dataset in the respective computer game to depict the real world geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game, wherein the play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a user's actual physical location[[:]],
 - wherein the geographic data tool set is configured to request data representing road segments within a selected area from the dataset as a function of a spatial query, the spatial query defining the selected area.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 51, wherein the computer game is a type selected from a group consisting of: a car chase game and a “bot” fighter game.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner’s statement of reasons for allowance:

The present invention is directed to a system and method for facilitating development of computer games that depict or represent actual, real world geographic areas as part of the play scenarios of the games, which includes extracting datasets from a source database that contains data that represent geographic features in a region including roads in the region, providing a first dataset for using in a real-world navigation system and providing a second extracted dataset to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms and using a portion of the second extracted dataset in a respective computer game to depict the real geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game.

The closest prior art of record, Paulauskas et al. (US Patent No. 6,401,033) teaches a navigation system with game playing feature, which uses geographic data presenting real-world physical features in a real-world geographic region for navigation system and playing games

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during driving based on location of the vehicle (see Paulauskas et al., [column 3, lines 33-67], [column 4, lines 45-63] and [column 5, lines 41-65].

However, Paulauskas et al. fails to anticipate or render obvious the recited feature of providing at least a portion of the second dataset to each of a plurality of end-user computing platforms, wherein each of the plurality of end-user computing platforms uses at least a portion of the second dataset in the computer game to depict the real geographic locale as part of the play scenario of the computer game, the play scenario including a predetermined theme that governs game play of the computer game in a preset storyline, wherein the play scenario corresponds to a virtual position for display on a user interface in which the virtual position is independent of a user's actual physical location, as similarly recited in independent claims 22, 34, 35, 48 and 51.

These features, together with the other limitations of the independent claims are novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record. The dependent claims 23-28, 30-33, 36-41, 43, 45-47, 49, 50 and 52 being definite, enabled by the specification, and further limiting to the independent claim, are also allowable.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONCLUSION

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Phuong-Thao Cao whose telephone number is (571)272-2735.

The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM (Mon - Fri).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hung T Vy/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2163

Phuong-Thao Cao, Examiner
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